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8 MAY 1950

MEMORANDUM TO : ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF, G-2
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

ATTENTION: Chief, Map and Photo Branch
Room 2B-461

SUBJECT : Three-dimensional Maps and Models

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AUTH: HR 70-2
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1. This Agency is interested in the present and potential availability of three-dimensional maps and models of foreign areas. It is understood that the Army Map Service has embarked on a program for constructing rubber relief models at the scale of 1:5,000,000 and a series of plastic relief maps at the scale of 1:1,000,000 on WAC sheet lines. It is reported that 4 panels of the rubber models for northern Eurasia and northern Canada are now in construction and 9 quadrangles of the 1:1,000,000 plastic maps are completed for southern Scandinavia.

2. In anticipation of the increasing availability of rubber models and plastic relief maps at the scales indicated, and in view of the interest in such materials expressed by components within this Agency, it is requested that this office be informed, in some detail, of the current and anticipated construction program. It would be helpful to receive:

- (a) Index charts showing coverage by the 1:5,000,000 models and by the 1:1,000,000 plastic maps in terms of anticipated completion at appropriate future dates.
- (b) Current or estimated cost, per panel, for the rubber models and for the plastic maps.
- (c) Information on the flexibility of the construction schedule in case this Agency desires to submit its priority needs.
- (d) The loan of copies of one or more sheets of the currently available plastic relief maps as an aid in determining need within the Agency. Delivery should be made directly to the CIA Map Division.

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3. We would also appreciate information pertaining to the production of the three-dimensional air-photos, particularly:

- (a) Cost of copies
- (b) Cost of an original and estimated delivery time
- (c) Loan of one or more samples

4. The models prepared by the Map Division, OSS, were of many scales but quite accurate in detail. It would be a great service if some low-cost technique could be developed by which copies of these models could be obtained with the essential information shown. The present cost of making copies of these models is, of course, a definite deterrent to their widespread use.

FOR THE DIRECTOR, CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY:

(S)

THEODORE BABBITT
Assistant Director

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